

## BALL AT RAINHILL.

The first annual ball in connection with the newly formed Cricket Club at Rainhill took place in the National Schools, on Friday evening last week. The whole suite of rooms, classrooms included, had been very tastefully adorned for the occasion by a committee of ladies, under the direction of Mrs. G. Bushby and Miss Owen. Decorative items were generously lent by the superintendent of the Rainhill Asylum, and these were most artistically utilised by the committee in question. Dancing commenced shortly before nine o'clock, Mr. Martin's quadrille band occupying the orchestra, and the most popular dance music of the day was discoursed. The gathering, a very enjoyable one from a dancer's point of view, was attended by about 50 ladies and gentlemen. Mr. W. Holland Owen, who takes a great interest in the club, was a most courteous master of ceremonies, and he was most ably seconded in his efforts by Messrs. J. Robinson, W. Sumner, W. H. Roby, H. Burrows, W. J. Lowe, and T. H. Lowe, who were the stewards. Mr. Short, of the Commercial Hotel, was the caterer on the occasion, and this gentleman was fully equal to the position, his reputation as a *chef*, particularly in this department, being fully sustained. Amongst those present during the evening were Mr. W. H. Owen, Mr. W. Mawdsley, Mr. J. Roby, Mr. W. Roby, Mr. T. Roby, Mr. B. Roby, Mr. J. and Miss Johnson, Mr. and Mrs. Sumner, Mr. T. Lowe and the Misses Lowe, Mr. Thornburn, Mr. W. Bell, Mr. C. Bell, Mr. B. and Miss Webster, Mr. T. Rogers, Mr. J. Ackers, the Misses Orford, Mr. W. Rogers, Mr. Whittaker and Miss Garratt (Prescot), Mr. H. Burrow, Mr. R. Webster, Mr. R. Wood, Miss Eickering, Miss Thompson, Mr. J. Lewis, Miss Grace, Mr. P. and Miss Hodgkinson (Crompton), Miss E. Molyneux, Misses Critchley, Mr. A. Tickle and Mr. F. Johnson (St. Helens), Miss M. Ball, the Misses Duxberry, Mr. J. Webster, Mr. F. and Miss Crompton, Mr. Hartland, &c. Dancing was kept up with unabated vigour until shortly after three o'clock, when a most pleasant ball was brought to a termination

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